

4-13-1969

Resist Board Meeting, April 13, 1969

Resist

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AREA PEOPLE'S MEETING: WED, APRIL 30th AT LOUIS' APARTMENT.

Members present: Frank Joyce, Dick Mumman, Noam Chomsky, Louis Kampf, Florence Howe, Paul Lauter, Bill Davidson, Dan Stern, Robert Zevin, Area People: Ron Hale, Hugh Matthews, Wayne O'Neil, George Hein, Doug McCay, Saul Slapikoff, (Bob Rothstein?) Guests: Greg Finger (CLLDF), Nathan Pusey (Harvard University.) Office Staff: (Cameo appearances) Wende Sheffield, Karen Weinberg, Greg Sandow, Chris Stevens, Allan Berube. Newsletter Staff: Arlene Siegel, Chris Stevens, James Reston, Anita Brown.

REPORTS

- I. Office - It's doing better than last month. The desertion rate is nearly equaled by enlistments. Infact we are operating with excess strength at the moment. (Purely an illusion born out of a one-day lull). Best news is that Arlene Siegel, editor of the Newsletter, will come to work full-time after giving up her MIT job.
- II. Week to Confront Campus Militarism - It did as well as could be expected, actions taking place at about 35-50 campuses (rough estimate), though by no means are all of these a response to our sponsorship of the Week. The Week project raised several political and practical questions about how Resist functions. These questions are discussed in Bob Parsons' "Meat & Potatoes" essay which is enclosed.
- III. Poets Tour - 26 poets participating, 10 good coordinators in the cities, anticipating fairly good profit.

DISCUSSION

A rambling discussion touched on several familiar arguments. The most persistent disagreement concerns Resist's ability or inability to make useful connections with working class or underclass groups. We have, of course, funded such groups since the early days of Resist. But there is some feeling that such groups represent a revolutionaryanguard and that we should be seeking them out in order to find out how we can help them. There is also considerable skepticism about this evaluation and about our fitness (as white, mostly academic, relatively privileged persons) for the task of locating the groups, understanding intra-group rivalries and providing substantial support for their work. We might also be swamped with requests.

The above is also related to the aims of any "traveling" that is to be done in the name of Resist. Brother Stern's letter (enclosed) exposes that conflict.

There was a consensus at the end of the discussion in favour of the policy guidelines contained in "Meat and Potatoes." It was agreed that up to \$300 could be used for a trip by someone from the office to certain existing Resist contacts. The purpose of this trip would be to find out more concretely than we can from occasional correspondence just what our contacts are doing and how we can support their work. It had also been suggested that we send out a traveler who would seek out specifically working & underclass groups. The consensus was to postpone a decision on that kind of trip until the next meeting - in the meantime certain SC members are to visit such groups in their cities to see if we can make a useful connection. (In Boston we have had a useful talk with the Black Panthers and expect a funding request from them. The people we spoke with seemed quite eager to cooperate with white radicals within certain fairly obvious limits.)

Running through the discussion was the old question about Resist's "constituency," who it is, how it can be maintained, what it will contribute funds for.

Any summary of these discussions is necessarily subjective and selective. My apologies to anyone who feels that this summary is inadequate.

Greg Sandow proposed that Resist officially express its support for the oil strikers in California and the Black Panthers who are being systematically persecuted. Noam suggested that the best means of support for the latter would be a good article in "Commentary," and that the oil workers' strike is a rather cloudy issue. Perhaps we should initiate an anti-repression campaign, eg. teachins, etc. Maybe we should encourage regional conferences on repression. There is an anti-repression campaign going on the West Coast which we should find out more about (Don Kalish et al - can you help us on this?)

In an effort to facilitate policy decisions, the agenda for the S C meeting will be circulated in advance of the meeting. Please send the office a note listing topics you want on the agenda.

Greg Finger gave a report on CLLDF whereabouts. He described the cooperative military law project as creating military law centers to provide lawyers; and train lay-attorneys; and service a national board of attorneys. Greg also volunteered his advice on how to raise money. He has had large success with direct mailings.

Greg Sandow explained Cambridge Iron and Steel as a group made up of Old Moler's, BDRG'ers, and SDS'ers who have been entrusted with a large sum of money-----\$100,000-----. The gift came without strings attached and the group is open to proposals for funding from anybody... Send proposals to Greg c/o RESIST.

Bill Davidson reported on the April Action in Philly. A sit-down was staged by over-draft-aged people at a draft board who read the list of 33,000 dead. The feeling of the Steering Committee was that it was a good idea to go ahead on plans for a similar reading in General Hershey's office, now being planned by Quaker Action Group and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. A good idea to get nationally prominent people in on this. Hugh Matthews was named to draft a letter to "good" contacts to stimulate national sit-ins at various local boards. Date will probably be May 29th.

Stockholm Conference: May 16-18 Noam Chomsky will probably attend.

THE RESIST OFFICE IS IN DESPARATE NEED OF A MIMEOGRAPH MACHINE. IF YOU KNOW WHERE WE MIGHT GET ONE, CHEAP!, PLEASE LET US KNOW.

Next Steering Committee Meeting is May 18th in New York.

at zevens

Funding Requests Granted:

"El Grito del Norte"
Oakland Draft Help
Resist (in Tuscaloosa, Ala.)
"Rough Draft"
Young Patriots
Resist (SMS)
South Bay Peace Center
D C 9 Defense Committee

RESIST

Room 4, 763 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. 02139 Phone: 617-491-8076

TEMPORARY STEERING COMMITTEE

April 19, 1969

NOAM CHOMSKY
*Massachusetts Institute
of Technology*

FREDERICK CREWS
*University of California
Berkeley*

WILLIAM DAVIDON
Haverford College

RICHARD FLACKS
University of Chicago

MITCHELL GOODMAN
Temple, Maine

PAUL GOODMAN
New York City

FLORENCE HOWE
Goucher College

FRANK JOYCE
*People Against Racism
Detroit*

DONALD KALISH
*University of California
Los Angeles*

LOUIS KAMPE
*Massachusetts Institute
of Technology
Associate National Director*

HANS KONINGSBERGER
New York City

PAUL LAUTER
*Antioch-Putney Graduate
School
National Director*

REV. RICHARD MUMMA
Presbyterian Ministry at Harvard

GRACE PALEY
New York City

RICHARD OHMANN
Wesleyan University

MARCUS RASKIN
*Institute for Policy
Studies*

SONDRA SILVERMAN
Brooklyn College

DAN STERN
Chicago Area Draft Resistance

ROBERT ZEVIN
Columbia University

To: All members of the RESIST steering committee

From: Paul Lauter

Subject: Restructuring the Steering Committee

We have talked about restructuring for a long while now, and it seems finally that we will be doing that job at the next two meetings. Many of us are, frankly, tired and overworked; we need new energy and new ideas. And broader movement relationships, too.

We are therefore inviting a number of possible new steering committee members to the May meeting in New York (May 18, 11:00 a.m., at the Zevins'). A number of people were suggested at the last meeting, and are being contacted, and a few other names have been proposed since. If you have any further suggestions whom you would like to invite, please give me a call before you do so, just to keep things from getting too big too fast (I'm at 301-252-1517; 10 LanLea Drive, Lutherville, Md. 21093).

The other decision we took was that we ought not to keep on the steering committee, for simple formality, or a letter-head, those of you who don't feel you can give your time to the organization just now. We divide pretty much in two: those who either come regularly to the meetings or keep in touch by letter or phone and work on projects, and those who don't. I don't think I've written to everyone in the latter category about continuing; if I haven't before, please now let me know if you want to stay on beyond next month. If I don't hear from you (or see you at the meetings), I'll assume you want to drop off.

"We believe . . . that every free man has a legal right and a moral duty to exert every effort to end this war, to avoid collusion with it, and to encourage others to do the same." from *A Call to Resist Illegitimate Authority*



"Tonight we're not saying anything unless it's significant."

STATEMENT - APRIL 11, 1969

BALANCE MARCH 14

3,401.39

DEPOSITS

PLEDGES

2,200.00

CONTRIBUTIONS

4,189.42 - 3500

TOTAL DEPOSITS

6,389.42

TOTAL TO APRIL 11

9,790.81

DISBURSEMENTS

I. GRANTS

A. REGULAR GRANTS

2,460.00

The Resistance (Denver) 100

Times Up 50

Hartford Draft Action 225

Arkansas Peace Inf. Ct. 90

Pa. High School Project 100

The Resistance (Seattle) 150

SDS 320

The Resistance Eugene 200

The Detroit Collective 350

Young Patriots 100

American Deserters Comt. 100

Clergy and Layment 250

Peacemakers 100

PISS 75

Black Panthers 250

B. EMERGENCY GRANTS

300.00

El Grito 100

Dan Swinney 200

TOTAL GRANTS

2,760.00

II. OPERATING EXPENSES

Payroll

1,060.06

Travel Expenses (inc. Resistance)

256.30

Office Expenses Conference

590.32

The Week

548.23

High School Kit

65.20

Printing and Copying

196.58

Postage and Mailing

308.10

Poetry reading

56.25

Loan (repaid 4-11)

200.00

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES

3,280.04

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

\$6,040.04

BALANCE APRIL 11, 1969

3,750.77

Encumbered

Rent 130

Telephone 200

Payroll 1,060

M 14 Mailing 120

Grants

The Resistance Denver 100

Ark. Peace Center 90

The Resistance Eugene 200

Detroit Collective 250

Peace Makers 100

PISS 75

Black Panthers 250

TOTAL ENCUMBERMENT

2,575.00

UNENCUMBERED BALANCE

1,175.77

less 294.58
1,181.10
 412.68

FUNDING REQUESTS FOR APRIL 1969

1. Atlanta Workshop in Nonviolence, Georgia.
For coffeehouse and Institute for the Study of Nonviolence

1500

2. Oakland Draft Help, Calif.
For continuing support of counseling center.

want 250/mo - Acc. 150

3. Resist, Tuscaloosa, Ala. (Bill Hart)
For additional seed money (we funded him \$200 in Feb.)
to maintain a counseling center.

\$ 208

4. "Rough Draft", Norfolk, Va.
For GI newspaper

5. Young Patriots, Chicago.
For meeting hall rental, food & clothing welfare, political
organizing. (We funded them \$100 in March)

100/mo/3 mos.

6. Resistance (Rob't Jenner), Flint, Mich.
Seed Money for new office. (We are awaiting more specific
request and a report from Ron Halstead).

?

7. "El Grito del Norte", Espanola, N.M.
For printing and community organizing.

\$ 350/mo/3

8. Resist, Southern Missouri State, Springfield, MO.
For mimeo machine. ~~450~~ 75

9. Committee for the 27, SAN FRANCISCO & WASHINGTON
Requests from both offices: SF request apparently is intended
to go for legal defense. Washington request presumably is for
their office expenses. It's probably all one bag ultimately.

~~612~~

10. Note: George has made two out-of-pocket grants to South
Bay Peace Center, Redondo Beach, Calif. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

\$25

OTHER REQUESTS: over

1. Oregon -

2. D.C. 9 - salary, buttons, \$125 + Mark